Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FOR EUR/RPM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, PARM

SUBJ: CSCE: DRAFT UK TEXT ON DEFINITION OF MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVER

1. FOLLOWING IS ALLIED CONSENSUS TEXT FOR THREE INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPHS OF OPERATIVE LANGUAGE FOR MANEUVER CBM, ARRIVED AT AFTER PROLONGED ALLIED CAUCUS SESSION ON JUNE 24:

BEGIN QUOTE

--THEY WILL NOTIFY ALL OTHER PARTICIPATING STATES OF MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVERS ON A BILATERAL BASIS THROUGH USUAL DIPLOMATIC AHNNELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

--NOTIFICATION WILL BE GIVEN OF MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVERS INVOLVING TROOPS, INDEPENDENTLY OR COMBINED WITH ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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POSSIBLE AIR OR NAVAL COMPONENTS, IN PARTICULAR

AMPHIBIOUS OR AIRBORNE UNITS, IN WHICH ANY PARTICIPATING STATE IS ENGAGED.

--THE TERM "MAJOR" MEANS MANEUVERS IN WHICH AT LEAST (...) TROOPS ARE INVOLVED. IN THE CASE OF COMBINED MANEUVERS ANY AMPHIBIOUS OR AIRBORNE TROOPS WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THIS TOTAL. END QUOTE.

2. CONSENSUS TEXT INCORPORATES THREE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS:
A) IMPORTANCE ATTRIBUTED BY NEUTRALS AND SOME NATO
ALLIES TO NOTIFICATION OF AMPHIBIOUS AND AIRBORNE
MANEUVERS;

B) ALLIED VIEW, WHICH HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR TO SOVIETS, THAT AMPHIBIOUS AND AIRBORNE TROOPS MUST BE COUNTED IN TOTAL WHEN DETERMINING WHETHER MANEUVER EXCEEDS THRESHOLD FOR OBLIGATORY NOTIFICATION;
C) POSITION OF US, USSR, AND FRANCE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO OBLIGATION TO ANNOUNCE INDEPENDENT AMPHIBIOUS AND/OR AIRBORNE MANEUVERS.

- 3. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS PORTION OF UK DRAFT TEXT INFORMALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY WITH SOVIETS ON JUNE 25, AND WILL REPORT REACTIONS IN SUBSEQUENT IMMEDIATE CABLE.
- 4. TEXT AND COMMENTS ON REMAINING PORTION OF CONSENSUS VERSION OF UK TEXT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.DALE

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